REMARKS

In the Office Action of 5/20/2004, claims 1-23 were examined and rejected. In this response, Applicants have amended claims 1, 4, 8-11, 14, and 18-23 and added new claims 24-26. Accordingly, claims 1-26 will be pending in this application.

I. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 102

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ben-Shachar et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,557,004 B1, hereinafter Ben-Shachar). The Applicants have amended claim 1 and, as the rejection might be applied to the amended claim, respectfully traverse. Claim 1 as amended recites a method for selecting a subset from a list of names in a computer system, each of the names comprising a first name and a last name, the method comprising:

accepting a first desired letter input;

selecting a first subset from said list of names comprising names having a first name beginning with said first desired letter;

accepting a second desired letter input; and

selecting a second subset from said first subset that have a first name beginning with said first desired letter and a last name beginning with said second desired letter.

Ben-Shachar does not teach or suggest each recited feature of claim 1. For example, Ben-Shachar does not teach or suggest accepting a first letter input, selecting a first subset from a list of names comprising names having a first name beginning with the first letter, accepting a second letter input, and selecting a second subset from the first subset that have a first name beginning with said first desired letter and a last name beginning with the second

desired letter. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner specify the portion(s) of Ben-Shachar that disclose each of the separate limitations of amended claim 1.

For the above reasons, Applicants believe claim 1 is in allowable form. Claims 2-9 are dependent upon claim 1 and allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

In the Office Action, the Examiner also rejected claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Whipple et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,917,905, hereinafter Whipple).

The Applicants have amended claim 10 and, as the rejection might be applied to the amended claim, respectfully traverse. Claim 10 as amended recites a method for providing an intuitive interface to a wireless telecommunication system, the method comprising:

displaying a first button for selecting a telephone dial pad interface for dialing a telephone number;

displaying a second button for selecting interface for dialing a telephone number from a list of speed dial numbers;

displaying a third button for selecting a call history interface for dialing a telephone number from a call history list;

displaying a fourth button for selecting a contact list interface for dialing a telephone number from a contact list;

receiving a first input selection of a first particular button from a user;

displaying a first particular interface corresponding to said first particular button; and

continuing to display said first, second, third, and fourth buttons while said first particular interface is displayed.

Whipple does not teach or suggest each recited feature of claim 10. For example, Whipple does not teach or suggest displaying first, second, third, and fourth buttons for selecting a telephone dial pad interface, a speed dial interface, a call history interface, or a contact list interface, respectively, then receiving an input selection of a particular button, displaying a particular interface corresponding to the particular button, and continuing to display the first, second, third, and fourth buttons while the particular interface is displayed.

As shown in Figures 3-10 of Whipple, after a particular interface is selected from a main menu of interfaces, the selected interface is displayed along with a "main menu" button. For example, if the "dial" interface is selected, the dial interface is displayed along with the "main menu" button (as shown in Figure 4). Whipple does not teach or suggest, however, continuing to display the first, second, third, and fourth buttons for selecting a telephone dial pad interface, a speed dial interface, a call history interface, or a contact list interface while a selected interface is displayed, as required in amended claim 10. As disclosed in Whipple, the user must select the "main menu" button to return to the main menu in order to select other interfaces (col. 13, lines 20-30). As such, in Whipple, the user does not have immediate access to these interfaces and must return to the main menu each time a new interface is selected.

As such, Applicants submit that claim 10 is in allowable form.

II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 11-23 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Whipple in view of Ben-Shachar. Claims 11-23 are dependent upon claim 10 and allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 10.

Claim 19 has also been amended to include "displaying a fifth button for selecting the active call interface, the fifth button being displayed only as long as said outgoing or incoming call is active." Neither Whipple nor Ben-Shachar, alone or in combination, teach or suggest such a limitation.

III. New Claims 24-26

In this Amendment, Applicants have added claims 24-26. Claims 24-26 are dependent on claim 10 and allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 10. Further, new claim 25 recites the method of claim 10 further comprising:

after continuing to display said first, second, third, and fourth buttons, receiving a second input selection of a second particular button from a user; and

displaying a second particular interface corresponding to said second particular button, wherein said second particular interface is displayed without requiring further input from said user.

(Emphasis added.)

Neither Whipple nor Ben-Shachar, alone or in combination, teach or suggest the limitations of new claim 25. As discussed above, in Whipple, a user must select the "main menu" button to return to the main menu and then select another interface. As such, further user input is required to display a second selected interface in Whipple since at least two inputs from the user is required.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing remarks, Applicants believe that the rejections in the Office Action of 5/20/2004 are fully overcome and that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions regarding the case, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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